

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 6, 2007. Claims 12 to 22 are pending in the application, of which Claims 12, 21 and 22 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, the claims have been amended to clarify that they are directed to a computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1 to 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,610,728 (Sobue). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns printing in a normal mode and in a high-speed mode of a document having images. In the high-speed mode, when an image is part of the document to be printed, a character string representing the location of the image is printed instead of the image itself.

Turning to specific claim language, newly-added independent Claim 12 is directed to an image processing apparatus which includes a reception unit adapted to receive second data acquired based on location information included in first data described in a markup language, wherein the location information indicates a location at which the second data exists; a print unit adapted to print the second data received by said reception unit; and a judgment unit adapted to judge whether the second data received by the reception unit is data of a predetermined type. The print unit prints the location data instead of the second data if the judgment unit judges that the second data is data of the predetermined type.

In contrast, Sobue merely discloses a facsimile apparatus capable of automatically selecting either A4 or B4 sized paper based on a size indicated by a flag set in a received image. However, the facsimile apparatus of Sobue does not receive second data acquired based on location information included in first data described in a markup language. Rather, the facsimile apparatus receives an ordinary facsimile image which is not acquired based on such location information.

In addition, Sobue is entirely silent about any location information included in the first data described in the markup language nor does Sobue disclose or suggest judging a data type of the second data and printing either the location data or the second data depend on the result of the judgment. Therefore, Sobue cannot possibly disclose a print unit that prints the location data instead of the second data if the judgment unit judges that the second data is data of the predetermined type.

In light of the deficiencies of Sobue as discussed above, Applicant submits that independent Claim 12 is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Independent Claims 21 and 22 are directed to a method and a computer-readable storage medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 12. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 121 and 22 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-3939.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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